**Process of Approval of Gender Studies Courses**

1. Faculty members will submit course materials to the Co-coordinators of Gender Studies; materials should include a syllabus (see criteria for Gender Studies courses) and a personal statement explaining the connection of the submitted course to the Gender Studies Program.

2. Course materials will be sent to the Gender Studies Curriculum Committee; each member of the committee will review the materials; the Committee will discuss the proposal and forward a consensus recommendation to the Co-coordinators of the Gender Studies Program. Recommendations for action may include approval, non-approval, or request for additional information.

3. Approval by the Curriculum Committee will be accomplished by simple major vote, except in the case of courses that will result in a change in the curricular requirements for the Gender Studies minor, authorization for which will require a two-thirds majority vote.

4. The Co-coordinators will communicate the decision of the Curriculum Committee to the faculty member who submitted the course.

All courses approved as Gender Studies offerings will have met University requirements for approval.

Courses may be submitted at any time. The process will proceed with all deliberate speed. The Co-coordinators will inform all members of the Gender Studies faculty when new courses are approved.

**Criteria for Gender Studies Courses**

Content

Courses approved as offerings in the Gender Studies Program at Indiana State University will significantly and explicitly explore social constructions of gender. Any systematic approach to the study of gender will demonstrate an awareness of its relationship to other variables of identify that function as sites of oppression, including but not limited to race, ethnicity, class, sexuality, sexual orientation, ability, and age. Materials in support of a course submitted for approval in the Women’s Studies Program will be expected to document its systematic approach to the study of gender.

Perspective

Historically, Gender Studies Programs have identified themselves as feminist. The Gender Studies Program at Indiana State University affirms this tradition. Professors of Gender Studies courses should feel comfortable with this association. Courses approved as offerings in the Gender Studies Program will incorporate feminist scholarship in their materials.

The Program recognizes the plurality of feminisms as well as the, at times complementary, at times conflictual, dialogue among them. We invite Program faculty to engage the ongoing, critical, scholarly exchange within feminisms; such activity encourages professional development and growth.

Pedagogy.

Gender Studies professors historically have been instrumental in transforming pedagogical practice. Pedagogy is both deeply personal and deeply political. The critique of power structures is inscribed in feminism; the classroom has traditionally been recognized as a power structure. We expect that the encounter with feminist studies will involve consideration of classroom dynamics. Although we do not advocate a specific pedagogy, it would be negligent to ignore the special relationship between pedagogy and feminist practice.